Chris O'Brien

From:

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Sent:

Thursday, April 29, 2021 8:51 AM

To:

House Finance Committee

Subject:

Testimony in favor of H 5451

To Chairman Abney & members of the committee,

This is a great bill from Rep. Williams to actually direct some targeted revenue from cannabis revenues for the first time in our state. Directing some leftover revenue from the restricted receipt accounts to the distressed communities program for example, is redistributing funds for communities who have already likely been over-policed and over-incarcerated. They are the most disadvantaged and deprived communities in Rhode Island, such as my hometown of Pawtucket. They are also much more non-white populations than the state average. After the general assembly strongly rejected proposed cuts to distressed communities last year, it should take another step forward by giving the program a new shot of revenue by passing this bill.

Thank You,

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Sent from my iPhone